

[the] second section of length ranging between 4.5 to 35 mm comprising activated charcoal particle / mixture selected from the group consisting of [charcoal particles] BS 25/44, BS 44/52, BS 52/60, BS 60/72, 72/85 and 85/100 having grain size ranging between 25 mesh [and] to 100 mesh for effectively reducing p-benzosemiquinone, [a highly reactive major harmful oxidant] protein oxidation, nicotine delivery from the mainstream of cigarette smoke; and [the] third section comprising cellulose acetate [fibre] fiber located closer to the tobacco portion of the cigarette of length ranging between 2 to 3 mm, [also] acting as [a] barrier between [the] activated charcoal and tobacco.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein length of the second section is dependent on the grain size and / or amount of charcoal used.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal filter consisting of charcoal granules which, are placed in a void space between the sections of cellulose acetate filters namely the mouthpiece and the barrier.

8. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the amount of charcoal particle / mixture used is in the range between 0.1g and 0.6g.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, [consisting] wherein the activated charcoal particle consists of 0.2 g of [activated charcoal of] the grain size BS (British standard mesh) 44/52.

13. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, [consisting] wherein the activated charcoal particle consists of 0.4 g of [activated charcoal of] the grain size BS 44.

14. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, [consisting] wherein the activated charcoal particle consists of 0.2 g of [activated charcoal of] the grain size BS 52/60.

15. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, [consisting] wherein the activated charcoal particle consists of 0.3 g of [activated charcoal of] the grain size BS 52/60.

16. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, [consisting] wherein the activated charcoal particle consists of 0.15 g of [activated charcoal of] the grain size BS 60/72.

17. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, [consisting] wherein the activated charcoal particle consists of 0.2 g of [activated charcoal of] the grain size BS 60/72.

18. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, [consisting] wherein the activated charcoal particle consists of 0.1 g of [activated charcoal of] the grain size BS 72/85.

19. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, [consisting] wherein the activated charcoal particle consists of 0.15 g of [activated charcoal of] the grain size BS 72/85.

20. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal mixture used consists of 0.4 g of grain size BS 44 and 0.2 g [of.] of grain size BS 52.

21. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal mixture used consists of 0.2 g of grain size BS 44/52 and 0.1 g of grain size BS 52/60.

22. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal mixture used consists of 0.2 g of grain size BS 44/52 and 0.1 g of grain size BS 60/72.

23. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal mixture used consists of 0.1 g of grain size BS 44/52 and 0.1 g of grain size BS 72/85.

24. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal mixture used consists of 0.2 g of grain size BS 44/52 and 0.1 g of grain size BS 72/85.

25. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal mixture used consists of 0.15 g of grain size BS 44/52 and 0.1 g of grain size BS 72/85.

26. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal mixture used consists of 0.1 g of grain size BS 52/60 and 0.1 g of grain size BS 60/72.

27. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal mixture used consists of 0.1 g of grain size BS 52/60 and 0.1 g of grain size BS 72/85.

28. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal mixture used consists of 0.1 g of grain size BS 60/72 and 0.1 g of grain size BS 72/85.

29. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal mixture used consists of 0.1 g of grain size BS 52/60 and 0.05 g of grain size BS 72/85.

30. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal mixture used consists of 0.1 g of grain size BS 60/72 and 0.05 g of grain size BS 72/85.

31. (Original) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein said filter inhibits p-benzosemiquinone (p-BSQ) of the mainstream smoke up to 85 percent.

32. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the said filter inhibits [the] protein oxidation, as evidenced by carbonyl formation in BSA by the mainstream [of] cigarette smoke [solution] up to 89 percent.

33. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, said filter reduces nitric oxide (NO) of the mainstream of cigarette smoke up to 68 percent.

34. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein [the] nicotine delivery in the mainstream of cigarette smoke is reduced from 935 µg to 350-400 µg in a cigarette.

35. (Original) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein use of nicotine fortified tobacco results in increased delivery of nicotine without increasing the level of p-BSQ.

36. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim [35] 1, wherein tobacco fortified with 2 to 4 mg of nicotine increases the nicotine delivery without increasing the level of p-BSQ.

37. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim [35] 1, wherein tobacco fortified with 2 to 4 mg of nicotine increases the nicotine delivery in the main stream smoke from 350-400  $\mu\text{g}$  to 575-700  $\mu\text{g}$  without increasing the level of p-BSQ.

38. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim [35] 1, wherein nicotine fortified tobacco with 2 to 4 mg of nicotine, delivers nicotine up to 90% without increasing the level of p-BSQ.

39. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mainstream of cigarette smoke [solution] is incapable of producing significant oxidative damage to guinea pig lung microsomal proteins *in vitro*.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Cancelled)

45. (Cancelled)

46. (Currently Amended) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the smoke from [charcoal filter] cigarettes with activated charcoal filter exhaled by smokers containing markedly low level of p-BSQ and is potentially less hazardous to passive smokers.

47. (Cancelled)

48. (Currently Amended) The filter [of] as claimed in claim 1 [comprising activated charcoal], wherein the mainstream cigarette smoke containing [very] low level of p-BSQ is incapable of producing significant oxidative damage to the lung microsomal proteins of guinea pigs when the animals are exposed to smoke emitted from cigarettes having the said [charcoal-filtered cigarettes] charcoal filter in contrast to marked damage of [the] lung tissue when the [animal] animals are exposed to smoke from cigarettes without having the said charcoal filter.

49. (Cancelled)

50. (Cancelled)

51. (Cancelled)

52. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal used consists of one or more activated charcoal particles.